

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Israel [O.] Thompson Farm Inventory Number: G-V-B-055

Address: 3517 Gorman Road City: Oakland Zip Code: 21550

County: Garrett USGS Topographic Map: Gorman

Owner: Paul and Mildred Harvey Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes

Tax Parcel Number: 44 Tax Map Number: 92 Tax Account ID Number: 16-006203

Assess Visual Effects of Allegheny Heights Windpower

Project: Facility Agency:

Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: Date:

Is the property located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

If the property is within a district

District Inventory Number:

NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes District Name:

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☒ yes ☐ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☒ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Israel Thompson Farm (MIHP # G-V-B-055) is located off a long unpaved farm lane that leads into ~~down into~~ a hollow west of Gorman Road. The house faces southeast away from Backbone Mountain. The roof ridge of the original block is oriented southeast-northwest. The gable roof of the north wing is oriented northeast-southwest. The view from the rear of the house is the slope of a grassy hill topped by trees that blocks views of Backbone Mountain. The view from the south elevation may offer a glimpse of Backbone Mountain, but the modern agricultural outbuildings that define the south edge of the farm yard obscure the view of the mountain.

The main house appears as a gable-front and wing type of vernacular house (McAlester 1990:92) occupying an L-shaped footprint, but comprises two sections. The original block of the main house is the two-story, two-bay by one-bay section with the gable roof oriented southeast-northwest. The 1981 MIHP form reported that this section of the house was vertical plank construction. Ware (1991: 131-132) dates the introduction of vertical plank construction in Garrett County ca. 1860. The foundation is stone. This section of the building has one-over-one-light, double-hung sash windows. One six-over-six-light, double-hung sash window was noted in the upper gable

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments:

Andrew Lewis
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Patricia Canty
Reviewer, NR Program

4/7/05
Date

4/7/05
Date

200500684

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 1

G-V-B-55

end of the southeast elevation. A one-story, shed-roof lean-to occupies the rear elevation. This lean-to contains a single door accessed by concrete steps.

The wood-frame, three-bay by one-bay section of the house extends from the north elevation of the original house. This section of the house contains a central doorway accessed by concrete steps. A one-story porch spans the southeast-facing elevation. A variety of double-hung sash windows were noted in this section, including two-over-two-light and one-over-one-light units.

The house is clad with horizontal wood siding on all elevations. The gable roofs are sheathed in composition roll roofing.

The 1981 MIHP form recorded that the owners had entirely remodeled and repartitioned the house interior.

A small concrete springhouse is located near the back door.

A variety of outbuildings line the driveway south of the main house. These outbuildings include a large metal garage, a concrete-block and wood stable/storage building, and a small concrete block shed. These sheds date from the late twentieth century.

The second dwelling reported in the 1981 MIHP form faces west. The early twentieth-century house was moved to the farm from Steyer-Gorman during the 1950s (MHT MIHP # G-V-B-055 1981). The one-story, wood-frame building has a five-bay façade. The side gable roof is extended along the rear elevation through a shed roof addition. The central doorway contains a wood panel door. The windows are two-over-two-light, double-hung sash units. A central gable peak features a vent in a pierced star motif.

The late nineteenth century barn reported in the 1981 MIHP form has been removed. A corrugated arch metal roof used as an equipment shed spans the foundations of the former barn.

The chicken house is a one-story, two-bay by one-bay building located west of the arched metal equipment shed. The wood-frame building has horizontal wood siding. The side gable roof is sheathed with composition roll roofing. Two doorways occupy the southeast elevation.

The house is reported in the deeds as the Israel O. Thompson House. Israel O. Thompson died in 1899 and his property was divided between his widow Joanna Thompson and his son Alva Thompson. After her death, the widow's portion was intended to be divided between sons John Henry Thompson and Charles S. Thompson. The 1900 U.S. census recorded Joanna Thompson as head of house with six children (two sons and four daughters) between the ages of 13 and 5. In 1915, Charles S. Thompson acquired the entire acreage (Garrett County deed EZT 70:23-25). In 1925, Charles Thompson sold the property to Paul and Eva L. Harvey (Garrett County deed 89:221).

The 1981 MIHP form attributed the house as the home of Israel Thompson, the early settler of Ryan's Glades. Thompson, born in Pennsylvania, arrived in Garrett County as a young man in 1820 and married Catherine Lower of Sunnyside. Thompson was a herder and eventually purchased property in what became Mountain Lake Park (Schlosnagle 1978:71-72). In 1849, Thompson bought 1,403 acres of the Norman Bruce property on the east side of Backbone Mountain for \$10,000. He settled near the Chisholm family in Ryan's Glades. Israel Thompson was listed in the 1860 U.S. census as a neighbor of the Chisholm family with children Isaac J. (age 30), Archibald (age 20), Mary (age 19), and several other family members. By 1870, Israel Thompson, then age 70 lived with his wife Catherine. Isaac Thompson, then age 39, and his family lived nearby. Israel Thompson died in 1876 and was buried in the family cemetery reported as the Thompson Farm in Ryan's Glade. Weeks (1949:92) stated that the

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 2

G-V-B-55

Thompson house was owned in 1949 by a granddaughter, Mrs. Samuel Duckworth. The Duckworth name does not appear the twentieth-century chain-of-title for MIHP # G-V-B-055.

The archival evidence viewed to date suggests that the house dates from the last quarter of the nineteenth century. The house appeared on the 1899 USGS Oakland 15-minute quadrangle map that was published in 1908. On the exterior, the house retains integrity of design and materials to illustrate a late nineteenth century house that evolved over time to qualify for National Register Criterion C. The boundary of the historic property is the house lot as defined by a fence line along the east side of the resource and changes in topography west of the house. The property does not incorporate an associated farmstead or a rural landscape since the period agricultural outbuildings have been removed. The reported association with Israel Thompson, a noted early settler in the region, remains unsubstantiated. No Israel O. Thompson was listed in the census in the household of Israel Thompson. Additional genealogical research is required to identify if Israel O. Thompson and the house was associated with Israel Thompson under Criterion B. No other buildings on the property appear to possess the qualities of significance under National Register Criteria A or C for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

References

Maryland Historical Trust

1981 MIHP Form G-V-B-055. On file at the MHT Library, Crownsville, MD.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee

1990 A Field Guide to American Houses. Alfred A. Knopf, New York.

Schlosnagle, Stephen

1978 *Garrett County: A History of Maryland's Tableland*. Reprinted 1997. McClain Printing Company, Parsons, West Virginia.

Scharf, J. Thomas

1882 *History of Western Maryland*. Louis H. Everts, Philadelphia, PA. Reprint edition.

U.S. Census

1860, 1870 Viewed at Heritage Quest On Line.

USGS

1908 Oakland 15 minute quadrangle map surveyed in 1899 and published in 1900 and 1908.

1948 Gorman 7.5 minute quadrangle map from aerial photographs 1946, field checked 1948, photo-revised 1981.

Ware, Donna M.

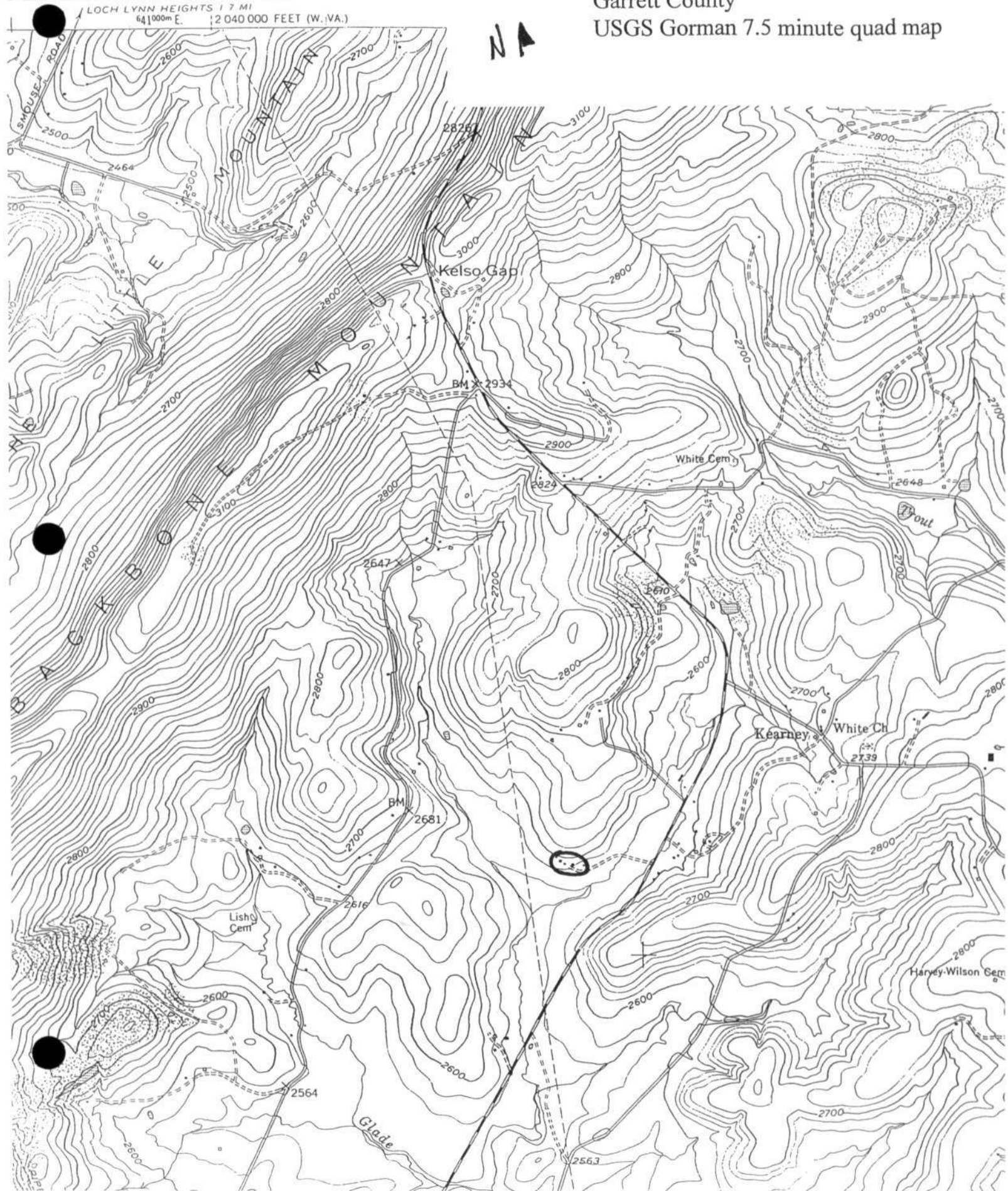
1991 *Green Glades & Sooty Gob Piles*. Maryland Historical & Cultural Publications, Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, MD.

Weeks, Thekla Fundenberg

1949 *Oakland, Garrett County*. Published by the Oakland Centennial Commission, Inc. Sincell Printing Company, Oakland, MD.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Israel Thompson Farm G-V-B-055
Kearney
Garrett County
USGS Gorman 7.5 minute quad map





MIHP # Q-V-B-075
ISRAEL O THOMPSON FARM
GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND
RGA
JANUARY 2005
NO SHPO
DWELING, VIEW SE
1 OF 1

G-V-B-055

Israel Thompson Farm
Gorman
Private

late 19th century

The Israel Thompson Farm consists of a mid to late nineteenth century plank house with late nineteenth century frame additions, a late nineteenth century frame bank barn, and a frame chicken house. Unrelated to the farm, but currently being used as an outbuilding, is a small early twentieth century dwelling that was moved here from Steyer-Gorman Road in the 1950's. The original block of the main house is a two story, gable-roofed, vertical plank structure on a foundation of coursed, roughly squared stone. The building is small, measuring only two bays long by one bay wide. 6/6 sash windows light this section. The current owners report that the interior has been entirely remodeled and repartitioned. A two story, gable-roofed, three bay by one bay frame addition is attached to the northeast elevation of the original block.

Locally, this site is referred to as the Israel Thompson Farm, as it is thought to be the home of this prominent Ryan's Glade settler. Thompson bought 1,403 acres of land at Ryan's Glade in 1849 which he farmed, and also had an up and down sawmill on Glade Run next to Chisholm's mill. Due to the extensive alterations on the dwelling to this farm, it is uncertain if the house actually fits into the 1849-79 time period when Thompson is known to have lived in the area.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Israel Thompson Farm

AND/OR COMMON

Paul S. Harvey Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

MD Route 560, W side, .7 mi. S of White Church - Steyer Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Gorman

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Garrett County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Paul S. Harvey

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Garrett County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

STATE

Maryland 21550

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

G-V-B-055

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE 1950's
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Israel Thompson Farm consists of a mid to late nineteenth century plank house with late nineteenth century frame additions, a late nineteenth century frame bank barn, and a frame chicken house. Unrelated to the farm, but currently being used as an outbuilding, is a small early twentieth century dwelling that was moved here from Steyer-Gorman Road in the 1950's.

The original block of the main house is a two story, gable-roofed, vertical plank structure on a foundation of coursed, roughly squared stone. The building is small, measuring only two bays long by one bay wide. 6/6 sash windows light this section. The current owners report that the interior has been entirely remodeled and repartitioned. A two story, gable-roofed, three bay by one bay frame addition is attached to the north-east elevation of the original block. Its southeast elevation serves as the facade, it having a symmetrical three bay, center door arrangement with 2/2 sash windows. Both wings are covered with weatherboard siding.

The barn is supported by a frame of circular sawn lumber with mortise and tenon joists and a new concrete block foundation. A few of the timbers are hewn, but there is no consistent use of them. This suggests that some of the materials may have been taken from another dismantled structure. Its roof is gabled and its exterior is sheathed with vertical board siding.

The chicken house is a one story, gable-roofed, frame building covered with weatherboard siding. A door and a grouping of four windows pierces the facade.

The second dwelling is a one story, gable-roofed frame building covered with German siding. Its basic configuration is a five bay by one bay rectangular plan with a recent shed-roofed addition extending across its rear elevation. The facade has a symmetrical five bay, center door arrangement with a four panel door and 2/2 sash windows. The central cross gable above the door is adorned with a vent bearing a pierced star motif. Beaded tongue and groove board lines the ceiling and the interior walls, however, all of its partitions have been removed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES late 19th c. BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Locally, this site is referred to as the Israel Thompson Farm, as it is thought to be the home of this prominent Ryan's Glade settler. Thompson bought 1,403 acres of land at Ryan's Glade in 1849 which he farmed, and also had an up and down sawmill on Glade Run next to Chisholm's mill (see G-V-B-053).¹ Due to the extensive alterations on the dwelling to this farm, it is uncertain if the house actually fits into the 1849-79 time period when Thompson is known to have lived in the area.

The early twentieth century dwelling that was moved to this site is said to have been a company-built house for a coal company operating along Steyer-Gorman Road. The house may have belonged to the Datesman Coal Company, the Steyer Run Coal Company, the Whitman Smokeless Coal Company, or the Steyer Mining Company, as all four had operations at that location at various times during the early twentieth century.²

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- ¹ Isaac W. Thompson. My Pioneer Grandmother, (undated, privately published) pp. 35 and 56.
- ² Charles K. Swartz and William A. Baker, Jr. Second Report on the Coals of Maryland, Maryland Geological Survey. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1920), p. 246.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION _____

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Valerie Cesna, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

August 1981

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

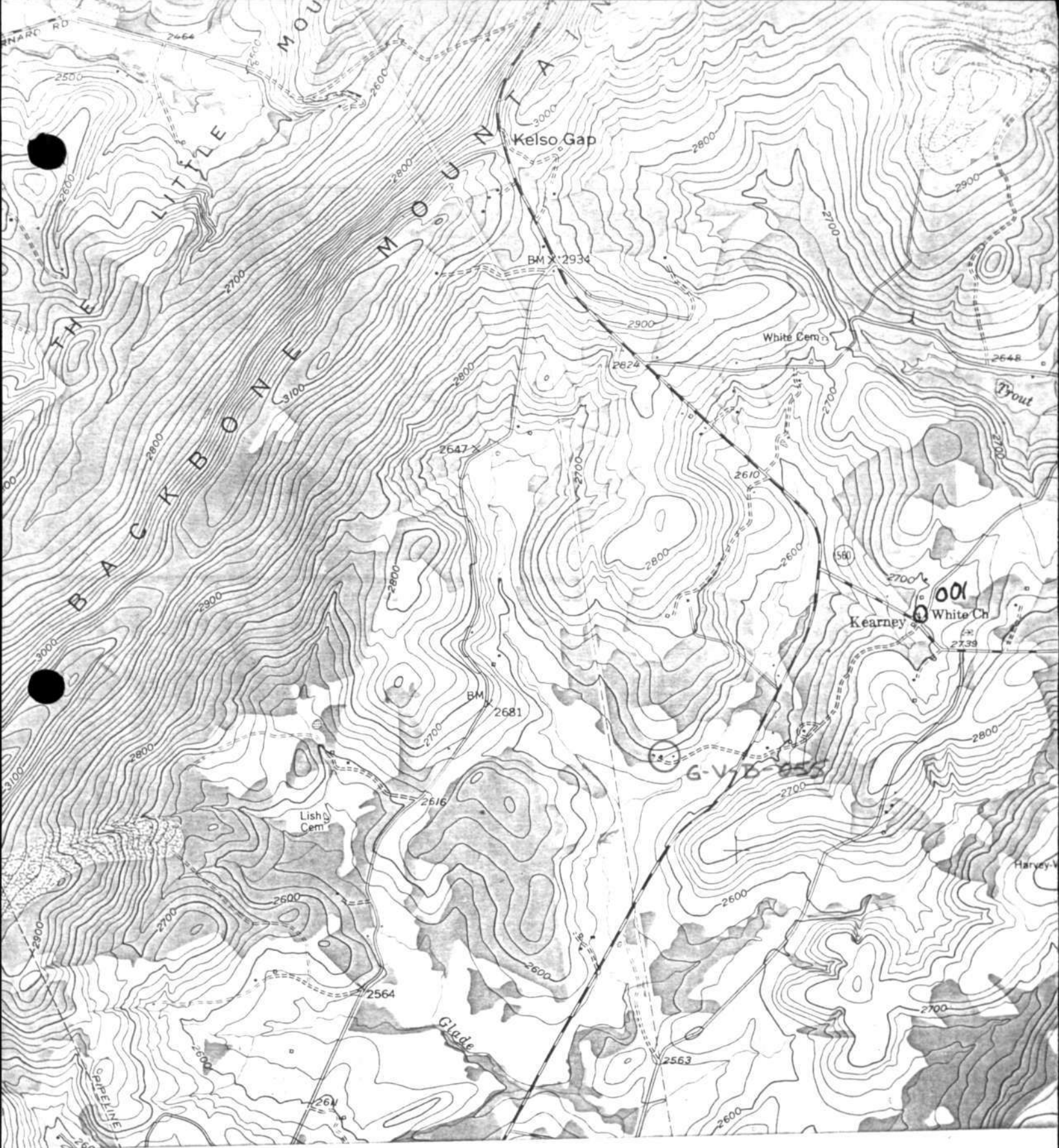
STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



Gorman, MD-WV
USGS 7.5 Minute Series
Scale - 1:24,000
1949; photorevised 1974

Site #: G-V-B-055
Israel Thompson Farm/Paul S. Harvey Farm
MD Route 560, W side, .7 mile
S of White Church-Steyer Rd.

months 2000

March 2000
April 2000
May 2000
June 2000
July 2000
August 2000
September 2000
October 2000
November 2000
December 2000



G-V-B-055

Israel Thompson Farm

Garrett County, MD

Valerie Cesna 8/12/81

SE elevation



G-V-B-055

Israel Thompson Farm .

Garrett County, MD

Valerie Cesna 8/12/81

SW elevation



G-V-B-055

Israel Thompson Farm

Garrett County, MD

Valerie Cesna 8/12/81

NW & NE elevations